

## RECORDING OF PROCEEDINGS

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Wyoming Board of Agriculture  
May 19, 2009  
Conference Call

Present: Juan Reyes  
Jim Hodder  
Jim Bennage  
Joe Thomas  
Bryan Brost  
Patrick Zimmerer  
Bridget Kukowski  
Shaun Sims  
Dalin Winters  
Jason Fearneyhough  
Frank Galey

Absent: Jim Price  
John Hansen

Guests: Cindy Garretson-Weber  
Matt Mead  
Ken Hamilton

Staff: Muff Parker, Recording Secretary  
Leanne Stevenson  
Justin Williams

### **Brucellosis Update**

Frank talked about the National Brucellosis Elimination Zone (NBEZ) around the greater Yellowstone area. USDA has published the rule without input, so they are having a meeting June 18 in Idaho to hear from interested folks. Joe is concerned about this being a split state and feels the feds will turn their backs on those within the area if established. He also had several questions on the terms of the zone.

### **Joint Ag Committee Update**

They discussed how to handle pets in natural disasters or home problems. WDA can't take on the issues and the committee doesn't feel the Livestock Board can, either.

Joe thanked Leanne for that great job she did on the presentation, as well as answering questions from the committee.

The committee wants to revisit Rangeland Monitoring. WSGA has draft legislation with \$850k attached which would involve conservation districts. The committee may be willing to take it on in cooperation with Extension, the Department and the conservation districts. There is movement to develop a committee on Companion Animals and there are a lot of questions regarding the issue. They talked about setting up a board, but staffing is a huge question. Many cities & towns have their own regulations and they may not meld with a new plan.

The Upper Platte River Tour is scheduled for June 12. The Buholtz tour is August 1. Juan will attend the meeting June 12. Joe will be attending the WSGA meeting in Gillette.

Nobody was able to attend the Joint Travel Committee, so there was no report.

### **Water Quality Extension**

Justin gave some background on the request for Sublette County's request for an extension. They are requesting the extension due to snow and not being able to sample in the previous year.

**Juan Reyes made a motion to approve the extension request for the Surface Water Quality Monitory - Big and Little Sandy Rivers Grant by the Sublette County Conservation District. The interim report will be due December 1, 2009 with the final report and return of all unused funds by June 30, 2010. This extension is to be granted until May 31, 2010. Shaun Sims seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carried.**

Patrick updated the members on the Living Legacy Program. He feels the MOU between F.A.I.R., State Fair and the Board of Ag may need to be revisited.

Jim Bennage traveled to South Dakota to observe a portable slaughter operation. He said direct marketing may be possible and this facility may be able to fill a niche market in Wyoming. He said they are hopeful the facility may be brought to State Fair in August.

There was discussion of the new pipeline such as where do we have to deliver the water to Colorado and can they take it from the channel or does Colorado have to accept it at the state line.

### **Member Updates**

There is plenty of water in the southeast, so all is good.

Matt Mead said the state funding cuts will affect some programs and they are asking for higher matches on grants. He found the tour of the slaughter facility in South Dakota to be interesting and would like the Business Council's help if it can be done in Wyoming. The cost of slaughter is more than a regular facility, but there is no stress to the animal. The state provides an inspector but the rest of the cost is born by the producer. Jim Bennage added that Rene King is going to see if they can come up with numbers on the process.

Joe would like the members to come up with two issues they feel would be good to discuss with the Game and Fish Commission in September by June 9. Muff will send out last year's issues.

There being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Joe Thomas, President

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Date